

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 CIAE-00 CU-02 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06

PA-01 PRS-01 ACDA-07 DHA-02 ISO-00 SS-15 OMB-01 NSC-05

L-03 SP-02 TRSE-00 BIB-01 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 NEA-10

OIC-02 /112 W

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R 261549Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3309

INFO AMEMBASSY ROME

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NESCO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PORG, OCON, UNESCO

SUBJECT: DRAFT DECLARATION ON FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES
GOVERNING USE OF MASS MEDIA

REF: (A) PARIS 21576, (B) PARIS 17288, (C) ROME 10867

1. DRAFT DECLARATION CIRCULATED BY FRG, JULY 23 AT
UNESCO "INFORMATION GROUP" MEETING AS ALTERNATIVE TO
DRAFT UNESCO TEXT AS FOLLOWS:

"ART. ROEM 1: THE MASS MEDIA IN DESSEMINATING INFORMA-
TION AND OPINION SHOULD DO SO IN A MANNER WHICH IS IN
ACCORDANCE WITH THE PRIHICIPLES SET OUT IN THE UNIVERSAL
DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS (AND ARTICLE 19 OF THE
COVENANT ON CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS).

SUBJECT TO ADEQUATE PROTECTION FOR THE PRINCIPLES OF
FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION AND INFORMATION, STATES SHOULD MAKE
IT THEIR AIM TO FACILITATE THE FREER AND WIDER DISSEMI-
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NATION OF INFORMATION THROUGH THE MASS MEDIA IN CON-

FORMITY WITH THE PRINCIPLES OF THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS, THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS.

ART. ROEM 2: IN ORDER TO ENABLE THE PUBLIC TO ASCERTAIN FACTS AND TO APPRAISE EVENTS INDEPENDENTLY, THE RIGHT TO SEEK, RECEIVE AND TRANSMIT INFORMATION SHOULD BE ASSURED, AND THE WIDEST POSSIBLE FACILITIES AFFORDED, BEARING IN MIND THE PRINCIPLES CONTAINED IN THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS.

ART. ROEM 3: THE MASS MEDIA ARE CALLED UPON TO PROMOTE GREATER KNOWLEDGE OF THE ILLS ATTENDANT UPON WAR, VIOLENCE, APARTHEID AND ALL FORMS OF NATIONAL, RACIAL OR RELIGIOUS HATRED. THE VOICES OF THOSE UNABLE TO BE HEARD WITHIN THEIR OWN TERRITORY BECAUSE OF THE REPRESSION BROUGHT ABOUT BY APARTHEID OR BY POLITICAL, RACIAL OR RELIGIOUS PERSECUTION SHOULD BE GIVEN EXPRESSION THROUGH THE MASS MEDIA.

STATES SHOULD ENACT LEGISLATION AGAINST PROPAGANDA FOR WAR, ADVOCACY OF OR PROPAGANDA FOR NATIONAL, RACIAL OR RELIGIOUS HATRED OR RACIAL, RELIGIOUS DISCRIMINATION INCLUDING THE DISCRIMINATION OF MINORITIES.

ART. ROEM 4: THE MASS MEDIA ARE CALLED UPON TO HAVE IN MIND THE SPECIAL PROBLEMS OF THE YOUTH AND TO DISSEMINATE THEIR VIEWS, CONCERN AND ASPIRATIONS. IT IS CONSONANT WITH ART. 26 OF THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS FOR THE MEDIA TO PROMOTE, PARTICULARLY AMONG YOUTH, THE FULL DEVELOPMENT OF THE HUMAN PERSON-

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USIA-06 PA-01 PRS-01 ACDA-07 DHA-02 SS-15 SP-02 NSC-05

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ALITY, THE STRENGTHENING OF RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND
FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS AND A SPIRIT OF UNDERSTANDING,
TOLERANCE AND FRIENDSHIP AMONG ALL NATIONS, RACIAL OR
RELIGIOUS GROUPS.

ART. ROEM 5: IN ORDER TO ENCOURAGE THE DEVELOPMENT OF
INDEPENDENT NATIONAL MASS MEDIA, STATES SHOULD PROMOTE,
BY INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS AND NATIONAL LEGISLATION,
THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL INDEPENDENCE OF INFORMATION PER-
SONNEL, AND HELP ENSURE THAT THE MEDIA HAVE THE TECHNIC-
AL FACILITIES REQUIRED TO CARRY OUT THEIR ROLE.

ART. ROEM 6: THE INDUSTRIAL COUNTRIES SHOULD ENDEAVOR
TO GIVE TO THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, ON THE BASIS OF
APPROPRIATE AGREEMENTS, SPECIAL ASSISTANCE FOR ESTAB-
LISHING AND PROMOTING NATIONAL MASS MEDIA AND FOR
TRAINING THEIR PERSONNEL WITH A VIEW TO REACHING A MORE
BALANCED FLOW OF INFORMATION.

ART. ROEM 7: THE MASS MEDIA ARE CALLED UPON TO RESPECT
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AND SUPPORT THE EFFORTS OF PEOPLES FREED FROM COLONIAL-
ISM AIMING AT OBTAINING AND PRESERVING THEIR NATIONAL
IDENTITY.

ART. ROEM 8: PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS IN THE FIELD
OF THE MASS MEDIA CAN HELP TO ENSURE THAT THE MEDIA
CONTRIBUTE EFFECTIVELY TO THE ACHIEVEMENT OF THE
OBJECTIVES OF THIS DECLARATION. IN PARTICULAR,
THESE ORGANIZATIONS CAN, ON A NATIONAL, REGIONAL
AND INTERNATIONAL LEVEL, ENCOURAGE HIGH ETHICAL STANDARDS
AND IMPROVE THE PROFESSIONAL TRAINING OF MEDIA PER-
SONNEL. THE SETTING UP OF SUCH ORGANIZATIONS BY FREE
MEDIA AND JOURNALISTS SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED."

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